

Docket No. 0384-0049-0 PCT

410 Rec'd PCT/PTO 24 MAR 2000

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#10A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

:

PATRICK DUWAT ET AL

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION:
(Based on PCT/1B99/01430)

FILED: HEREWITH

:

FOR: PROCESS FOR PREPARING
STARTER CULTURES OF LACTIC
ACID BACTERIA

:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-13.

Please add the following claims.

--14. A process for preparing a lactic acid bacterial starter culture, comprising:

culturing at least one strain of lactic acid bacteria under aeration in a nutrient medium

which contains at least one porphyrin compound is present or is added; and

A1